

Minutes TNDP Steering Group Meeting

Wednesday 5th October 2022, 6.30pm

Tavistock Town Council Chamber

Steering Group members attending

Ursula Mann, Chair and Cllr

James Ellis, Cllr

Pete Squire, Cllr

Stuart Honey, Secretary

Dr. Sharon Gedye (SFHEA)

Kit Harbottle

Richard Martin

Sue Spackman

Ian Wright

Apologies

Colin Rogers

Janna Sanders

Guest

Stuart Todd – Project Manager for TNDP

This evening we welcomed Stuart Todd who has been appointed to assist and guide us as we develop the neighbourhood plan in the coming months.

1/ Update on Housing Needs Assessment

4th October 2022 meeting with AECOM: Ursula Mann, James Ellis and Colin Rogers in attendance. They will be on hand, with the support of Alex Rehag from WDBC to advise on how we will be able to work on developing affordable first homes policies. Data from latest census will not be available until later this year to help with assessing needs.

E.g. We will be able to use anecdotal evidence for finding out type of housing stock demand – the issue of retirees moving into houses in area and not downsizing.

2/Finance Report

Richard Martin undertaking role as Finance Officer and will provide updates regularly from next SG meeting onwards – payment of Project Manager begins this month.

3/ Evidence Gathering

Stuart Todd (ST) gave a detailed review of the evidence documents submitted by the topic leaders – evidence gathering is an ongoing process that will be regularly added to.

Some of the evidence will cross over multiple topics – and can be highlighted in more than one place.

Business & Enterprise

Key thing is to gather evidence from local organisations – e.g., BID and commercial and residential estate agents – some of the documentation at county level is not necessarily granular enough for local needs, however Jamie Evans from Devon County will be a useful contact.

WDBC is producing data shortly on Tavistock as part of work on ‘Key towns’ for joint local plan - this will be made available to us and AECOM.

E.g. If there are regeneration and enhancements planned by BID make sure these are dovetailed in with NP – especially when looking for funding.

Community Facilities

The key thing is to balance aspiration for facilities with actual demand – e.g. is there requirement for a new sports hall, is there a waiting list for allotments etc. and work them into the plan through local contact and surveys.

Audit facilities and put them on a map with spreadsheet.

Heritage

Add value to what is already here – there is a lot of protection in place and a large number of records from central government, world heritage as well as local bodies.

Maps and resources already available will be very useful to support or oppose any potential development plans

Local community involvement key to find nonregistered sites – document places that should be protected and add heritage value – e.g. Victorian post boxes in walls

Design guides may be useful to protect Character of the place – e.g. Bedford Cottages.

Housing

Understanding evidence is important to back policy. Lack of rental although small is the a challenge - second homes not such a challenge here – talk with local estate agents would be useful. AECOM will have information to assist in validation and set plan. Gathering information on Airbnb and holiday homes may be more difficult but data on business rate payers would help.

Settlement boundary – a line within which principal development is accepted – planning system structured to deliver growth not restrict - WDBC should provide advice.

Landscape and Environment (Green Spaces)

A lot of information available – most of the ‘leg work’ already done - e.g. Woodland Trust Wildlife Trust information should be used in addition for producing map for sighting of species – also put in audit of local green spaces, playing fields , heritage spaces to be designated for protection. Tree protection information available from WDBC.

Transport and Connectivity

Not much data available locally - key is to find data to back up local priorities, concerns and opinion to work into the plan - e.g. traffic flow and congestion

Try and find other similar towns as case studies.

4/ Plans for Aims Visions and Objectives to be prepared by topic leads for next meeting 9th November 2022

Now we have started work with the evidence and with the views from the survey results we can start work on AVO

Send to secretary by 7th November for collation

Afterwards we will then visit various groups and associations to talk about the topics: BID members, Heritage Trust, sports clubs, churches, youth cafe etc

There will be table space in markets and library around Christmas time to talk to residents .

We will make use of social media to involve community.

Next meeting 9th November 2022 6.30pm Tavistock Town Council Chamber

With no further AOB meeting adjourned at 8.10pm

Stuart Honey
Secretary